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A fragment from the mountain celebrations: President of the Republic of Poland, Professor Ignacy Moscicki, with his wife and the Minister of War, General Tadeusz Kasprzyski, a good friend of the Polish YMCA. General Kasprzyski is not only a prominent military man but is also known for his high social spirit and leadership in social work.

Traditional Celebrations

Two especially interesting celebrations take place each year in Poland. One of them is "Sea Week"; and as Poland is bound to the sea by ancient tradition, during that week an enormous crowd of people from all parts of the country travel to the coast. The second characteristic Polish celebration is "Mountain Week", on the one hand devoted to economical problems of the Polish mountaineers, and on the other hand having as aim the acquainting of the entire population of Poland with the quite special and very interesting culture of the people of the Polish mountains.



Just lately "Mountain Week" has taken place in one of the most beautiful mountain districts in Europe, the resort named "Wisla", in which neighborhood rises the 650 mile long River "Wisla". (Eng. Vistula).

During "Mountain Week" many regional ceremonies of the local folk were indulged in, and their customs, apparel, music, dances, and plastic art, formed a whole of extremely interesting and characteristic color. A large number of tourists from other countries visited Poland on the occasion of "Mountain Week" and many of them came to see the work conducted by the Polish YMCA in various cities.

The pictures reproduce a few fragments from "Mountain Week".



Picturesque regional costumes noted during "Mountain Week"

The Training of Leaders

The 15th of September inaugurates the beginning of the autumn season in the Polish YMCA. What great significance a well prepared program and well prepared leaders and secretaries have in our activities every YMCA man well knows. The road to expansion which we follow is the continual improvement of our program of activities, by which means we draw more and more young men into our buildings. However, in order to better our program we must have a well trained force of leaders, and we must also continually keep in mind the necessity of organizing and training the young fry for future leadership. The last National Convention of the Polish YMCA was devoted to these matters and during the past summer special emphasis was placed on the conducting of a series of conferences and courses embracing the problems of various sections of our activities.

Just lately a series of these conferences and courses have ended which took place in the camp of the Lodz YMCA situated on the beautiful River Pilica. There we held a conference of the secretaries of the Boys' Divisions of the Polish YMCA, a conference of the National Council committee for work among boys, a conference of the program secretaries, and also a course for the physical education leaders.

We greet the autumn season in the Polish YMCA in readiness for the problems awaiting us. During this season we intend to realize the further intensive training of leaders, supported by a system which has lately been accepted. This system depends on the specialization of leaders in various departments of work, and the gaining of the title of leader of a given Department. The next degree, after appropriate training, is the acquirement of the title of leader of the Polish YMCA.

A Welcome Guest



Mr. George H. Earle, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, has lately visited Poland.

International Course On Polish Culture

Since a few years the "Polish International Committee of Intellectual Cooperation" has conducted international courses on Polish culture, including lessons in the Polish language, information in the sphere of Polish history, literature, and art, and numerous excursions about the country. The Polish YMCA takes an active interest in the realization of these courses, appreciating their value in the propagation of international friendship.

This year's course was especially successful, one of the proofs being the large variety of countries represented in the attendance. There were students from America, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Jugoslavia, Latvia, Roumania, and Switzerland.

The six weeks course was conducted successively in Krakow, Poznan, and Warsaw, and between times the students took part in a number of attractive excursions, visiting the most interesting centers of the Republic.

During six weeks the Polish language in the interpretation of men and women from fifteen countries resounded in the buildings of the Polish YMCA. The students made great progress and lived together like one happy family. And this is not surprising, for they had one mutual language; international good will!

100 New Schools

The Polish educational authorities show lively interest in supplying rural youth and small towns with suitable conditions for learning. The program of the Polish schools, from elementary to university, is known for its high level, but lack of a sufficiency of school buildings, in some districts especially, is an actual problem.

After the death of Marshal Joseph Pilsudski the people of Poland put forward many propositions as to the most suitable means of honoring his memory. Among others, the province of Wilno decided to build and immediately put into use 100 new schools. About 18 months have passed since that decision was taken and already the task of the building committee of the 100 schools is practically finished. The building of 100 new schools in one province during several months - that's a fine record!

Could there be a more beautiful monument in memory of a great life?



In a previous issue of "News From Poland" we published information about the new Polish YMCA camp near the coast in the region of Gdynia. During the past two weeks 15 huts, the kitchen, and dining hall have been built. The picture shows the type of hut being erected in the camp.

